

## **Abstract**

A method for protecting a tuyere assembly (12) and a refractory lining of a furnace, and in particular a blast furnace, against damage caused by expansion of the refractory lining. This method comprises the steps of providing a  
5 clearance (40) between the tuyere assembly (12) and a refractory lining portion (16) below the tuyere assembly (12) and monitoring this clearance (40) by means of a displacement sensor (50).

(Fig. 1)

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